



(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Schoone

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(54) **PHALAENOPSIS ORCHID PLANT NAMED**
‘FLOR179934’

(50) Latin Name: *Phalaenopsis* hybrid
Varietal Denomination: **FLOR179934**

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(72) Inventor: **René Schoone**, Assendelft (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Floricultura**, Heemskerk (NL)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 141 days.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Phalaenopsis* plant named
‘FLOR179934’ particularly characterized by flowers which
are white with some yellow in the labellum; plants which may
be propagated economically and uniformly using tissue cul-
ture; plants which produce more than one inflorescence; long
and sturdy inflorescences; and relatively short, dark-green
foliage.

3 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:
Phalaenopsis hybrid.

Variety denomination: ‘FLOR179934’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Phalaenopsis* plant, botanically known as *Phalaenopsis* of
the Orchidaceae family, and hereinafter referred to by the
cultivar name ‘FLOR179934’.

Phalaenopsis comprises a genus of about 55 species of
herbaceous perennials many of which, or the hybrids thereof,
are suitable for cultivation in the home or greenhouse.
Phalaenopsis is predominantly epiphytic or rock-dwelling,
and is native to tropical Asia, the Malay Archipelago, and
Oceania. The species typically has 2-ranked, fleshy, oblong or
elliptic leaves affixed to a short central stem (monopodial
growth), which vary in size from 5 to 8 inches to over 2 feet.
The leaves may be entirely green or mottled with silver grey.

Phalaenopsis orchids, often referred to as ‘Moth Orchids’
in the horticultural trade, are frequently used to furnish cut
flowers for the florist trade or sold as flowering potted-plants
for home or interiorscape.

Phalaenopsis produces upright or pendent lateral racemes,
often with many showy flowers which open in succession
beginning with the lowermost. The flowers possess three
sepals and three petals; the lateral ones being alike. The
lowermost petal, called the labellum, is three-lobed and is
often more brightly-colored than the other flower segments.
Flower colors include various shades of pink, white, yellow
and red-brown.

Phalaenopsis orchids are typically propagated from seeds.
Asexual propagation of *Phalaenopsis* is often done from
off-shoots which frequently arise from the lower bracts of the
inflorescence. The resulting plants are detached from the
mother plant and may be planted in a suitable substrate.

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The new *Phalaenopsis* ‘FLOR179934’ is a product of a
controlled breeding program conducted by the inventor, René
Schoone, in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands. The
objective of the breeding program was to develop a new
Phalaenopsis cultivar particularly characterized by its attrac-
tive and unique colored flowers, economical propagation via
tissue culture, rapid growth, and a plant dimension suitable
for packaging and shipping to the market.

The new *Phalaenopsis* ‘FLOR179934’ originated from a
cross made by the inventor in 2000 in Strengweg, Heemskerk,
The Netherlands. The female or seed parent is the *Phalaenop-*
sis cultivar designated ‘(amabilis×White Castle)’, unpat-
ented. The male or pollen parent is the *Phalaenopsis* cultivar
designated ‘(Moon World×Musashino×Taisuco Windian)’,
unpatented. The new *Phalaenopsis* ‘FLOR179934’ was dis-
covered and selected by the inventor as a single flowering
plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled
environment in 2008 in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Nether-
lands.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar by
tissue culture was first performed in July, 2008 in Cieweg 13,
Heemskerk, The Netherlands, and has demonstrated that the
combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new
cultivar are firmly fixed and retained through successive gen-
erations of asexual reproduction. The new cultivar asexually
reproduces true-to-type.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be unique characteristics of ‘FLOR179934’,
which in combination distinguish this *Phalaenopsis* as a new
and distinct cultivar:

1. flowers which are white with some yellow in the label-
lum;
2. plant produces more than one inflorescence;

3. plants may be propagated economically and uniformly using tissue culture;
4. inflorescences are long and sturdy; and
5. relatively short, dark-green foliage.

In comparison with the parental cultivars of 'FLOR179934', the female parent '(amabilis×White Castle)' has white flowers and are about 11 cm in size. The male parent '(Moon World×Musashino×Taisuco Windian)' has white flowers and are about 11 cm in size, whereas the flowers of 'FLOR179934' and are about 10 cm in size.

Presently, the commercial cultivar to which 'FLOR179934' can be meaningfully compared is the *Phalaenopsis* orchid 'Honesty' (U.S. application Ser. No. 13/998,015). In comparison 'FLOR179934' has a shorter raceme (about 60 cm) than 'Honesty' (about 70 cm).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Phalaenopsis* 'FLOR179934' showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which accurately describe the color of 'FLOR179934'.

FIG. 1 shows a side view perspective of a typical flowering plant of 'FLOR179934' in a 12 cm pot, at 16 months of age.

FIG. 2 shows a close-up view of the typical buds and flowers of 'FLOR179934'.

FIG. 3 shows a close-up view of the typical leaves of 'FLOR179934'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar 'FLOR179934' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and day length without any change in the genotype of the plant.

The aforementioned photographs, together with the following observations, measurements and values describe plants of 'FLOR179934' as grown in a greenhouse in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Initially, the ideal temperature to grow plants of 'FLOR179934' is 27° C. during the day and at night. Then, during the flowering phase of 'FLOR179934', the ideal growing temperature is 20-22° C. during the day and 18° C. at night. Light levels for growing 'FLOR179934' are a minimum of 5,000 lux and a maximum of 10,000 lux. A balanced fertilizer with level of 200 ppm N, 87 ppm P, 168 ppm K is applied. Duration of growth of 'FLOR179934' from potting size is between 10 and 14 months.

Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.), 2007 edition, except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately noon in Zaandammerweg, Assendelft, The Netherlands. The age of the 'FLOR179934' plants described is 12 months after potting.

Classification:

Botanical.—*Phalaenopsis* hybrid.

Parentage:

Female or seed parent.—*Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated '(amabilis×White Castle)', unpatented.

Male or pollen parent.—*Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated '(Moon World×Musashino×Taisuco Windian)', unpatented.

Propagation:

Type.—Tissue culture.

Rooting habit and description.—Approximately 4 mm-7 mm wide and grey/green (RHS 190C) in color; freely branching. It takes 12 weeks for plants growing in tissue culture to initiate roots.

Plant:

Size at maturity.—Height: about 61 cm. Spread: about 60 cm.

Growth habit.—Standard; green (RHS 137A) leaves and a relatively normal raceme.

Vigor.—Moderate.

Crop time.—Following asexual propagation, at about 26 weeks 2 leaves appear; at about 30 weeks 3-4 leaves appear; after a cold treatment of about 4-8 weeks at a temperature of about 19° C. about 2 peduncles with flowers appear.

Foliage:

Quantity per plant.—About 5 to 8 leaves are produced before flowering.

Arrangement and attachment.—Half up/horizontal and on two sides.

Overall shape of leaf.—Oval and long, the tip is little pointy and asymmetric.

Texture.—Smooth and leathery.

Pubescence.—None.

Mature leaf length.—About 15 to 26 cm.

Mature leaf width.—About 6 to 9 cm.

Mature leaf thickness.—About 2 mm.

Mature leaf color.—Upper side: RHS 137A. Under side: RHS 137C.

Leaf base.—Acute.

Margin.—Entire.

Venation.—Pattern: parallel. Color of midvein: upper side: green (RHS 137A). Under side: green (RHS 137C).

Raceme:

Quantity per plant.—About 2 to 4.

Number of flowers per raceme.—About 8 to 14.

Length.—About 55 to 65 cm.

Diameter.—About 6 mm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Upright.

Texture.—Glabrous and smooth.

Color.—Brown (RHS N200A) with green (RHS 143C).

Internode.—Length: about 45 mm.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Upright to slightly pendant, racemose inflorescence with bilaterally symmetrical flowers that open in succession beginning with the lowermost flower.

Buds.—Height (from base to tip): about 23 mm. Diameter (at midpoint): about 21 mm. Shape: oval with a rounding on the side. Color: green (RHS 141D).

Flowering time.—For an untreated plant (flowering plant that has not undergone cold-treatment where the plant grows at a temperature of 18° C. to 19° C. for about 4 to 8 weeks after a period of about 30 weeks at a temperature of 25° C.), 2 racemes appear with about 16 to 20 flower buds and flowers per inflorescence. First flowers can be expected approximately 4 to 6

months after planting a plant with a leaf diameter of 3 to 5 cm. Flowers persistent.

Flowering longevity.—On the plant: about 4 to 6 months; lastingness of cut flowers: has not been observed.

Fragrance.—No fragrance.

Flower.—Rate of opening: Flowers fully opened about 2 to 3 days after petal and sepal separation. Orientation at opening: slanted upward and outward. Shape: Typical shape of *Phalaenopsis* orchid; see FIG. 2. Size: Height: about 80 mm. Diameter: about 93 mm. Depth of tube: about 17 mm.

Petals.—Quantity and arrangement: six petals that are trimerous, overlapping and arranged in 2 whorls. Petals are more pronounced than sepals. Arrangement: Inner whorl of petals comprises 3 petals, 2 lateral petals and labellum. 2 lateral petals: Overall shape: broadly ovate and weakly cupped. Apex: round. Margin: entire and weakly undulate. Base: broadly ovate. Length: about 54 mm. Width: about 42 mm. Texture: Upper surface: smooth and satiny. Under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): upper & under surface: white (RHS NN155C). Labellum: Overall shape: 3-lobed with 2 prominent callosities at central junction of the lateral lobes and base of the midlobe. Lateral lobes of labellum fold upward about the column; the midlobe extends forward and is terminated by 2 long filiform appendages at the apex. Lateral lobes of the labellum are ovate in shape while the midlobe is triangular with a bump and a rib on it. Margin: entire and weakly undulate. Apex: oval. Length: about 21 mm. Width (not flattened): about 23 mm. Texture: Upper & under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): Midlobe, upper surface: white (RHS NN155C). At the base the edges and the corners yellow/green (RHS 1C) and also in the center. At the upper edge little bit grey/orange (RHS N163B). Under surface: same as upper surface without the yellow/green in the center. Lateral lobes, upper surface: Lower edge from base is yellow/green (RHS 1B). From base some grey/orange stripes (RHS N170B). Main color is white (RHS NN155C). Under surface: white (RHS NN155C). Lower edge is yellow/green (RHS 1B). Cirrhi: long and curly (about 18 mm). Color: white (RHS NN155C). Pestle (Callosities): Length: about 5 mm. Width (not flattened): about 6 mm. Color: yellow (RHS 5C) with grey/orange spots (RHS N170B).

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Sepals.—Arrangement: Outer whorl of petals comprises 3 sepals. Overall shape: elliptical and weakly cupped. Margin: entire and weakly undulate. Length: about 43 mm. Width: about 28 mm. Apex: Dorsal: round; Lateral: little pointy. Texture: Upper & under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): Dorsal, upper & under surface: white (RHS NN155C). Lateral, upper surface: White (RHS NN155C). Under surface: white (RHS NN155C) some have yellow/green (RHS 150B) on the midvein and at the end a light red/purple haze (RHS 72C).

Reproductive organs:

Arrangement.—The stamens, style and stigmas are fused into a single, short structure called the column, possessing one terminal anther with pollen grains united into a pollinia, which are covered by an anther cap. The stigma is located under the column behind the pollinia. The ovary is inferior with three carpels present. The plant has not produced seed.

Column.—Length: about 9 mm. Diameter: about 5 mm. Color: white RHS NN155C.

Pollinia.—Quantity: Two. Diameter: about 1.5 mm. Color: orange (RHS 24A).

Ovary.—Length: about 4 mm. Diameter: about 5 mm. Color: white (RHS NN155C).

Pedicel.—Length: about 45 mm. Diameter: about 3 mm. Texture: glabrous and smooth. Color: Close to the flower white (RHS NN155A), which runs into yellow/green (RHS 145B) into grey/orange (RHS 166A).

Disease/pest resistance/susceptibility: No specific resistance or susceptibility observed.

Temperature tolerance: Tolerant to a low temperature of about 15° C. and to a high temperature about 30° C.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'FLOR179934', as illustrated and described herein.

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FIG. 1

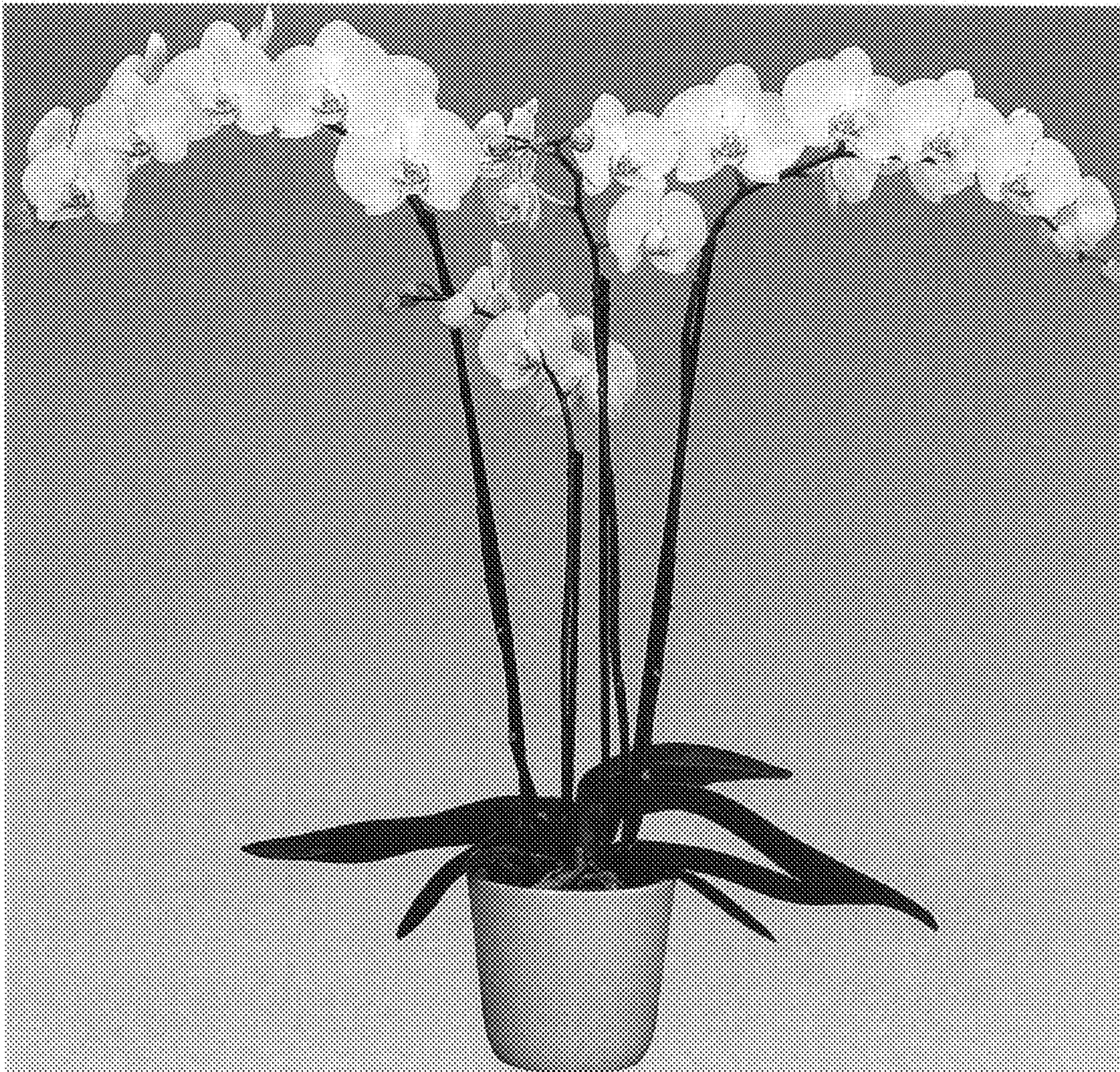


FIG. 2

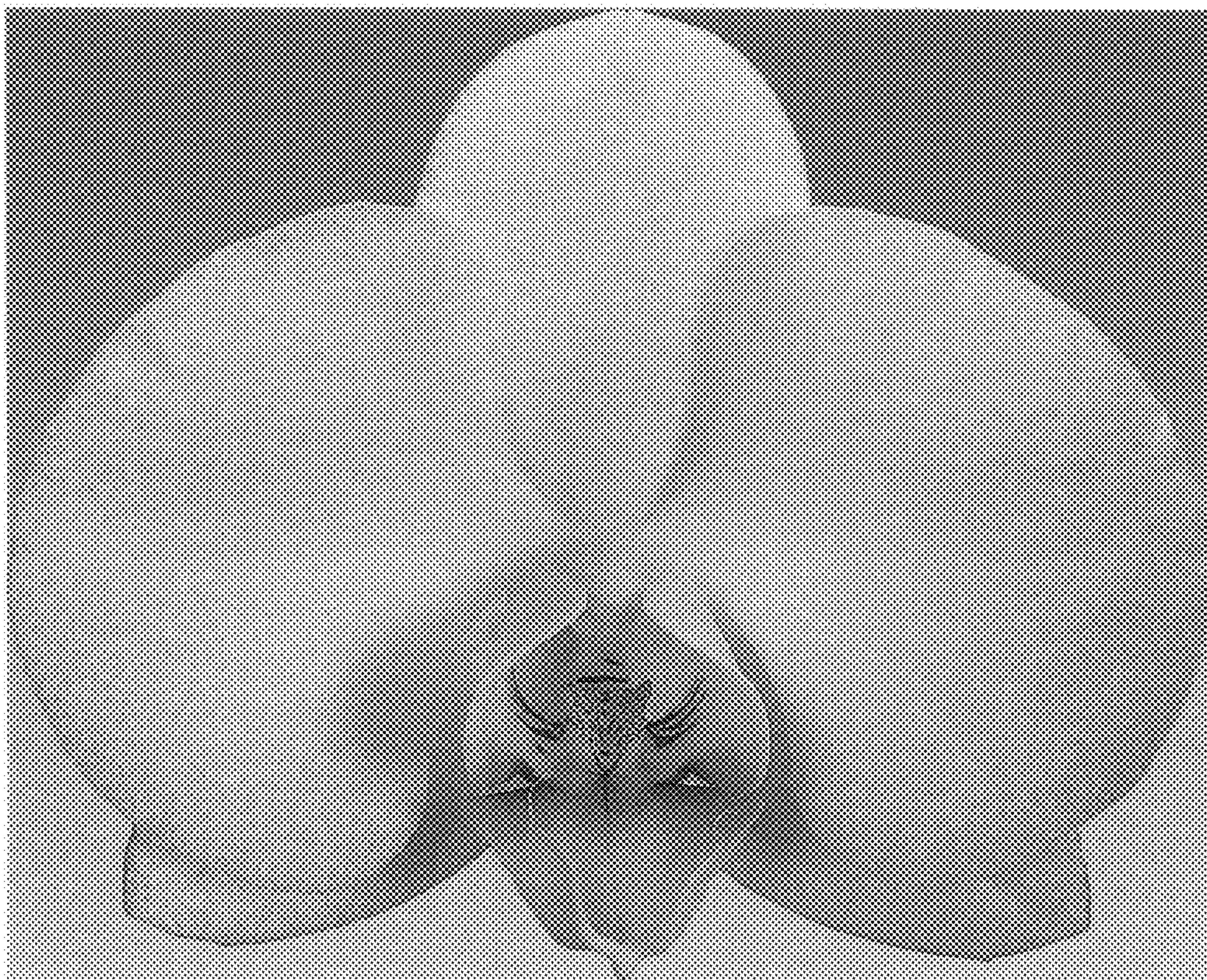


FIG. 3

